

# ***2001 LOUISIANA HEALTH REPORT CARD***

**As mandated by R.S. 40:1300.71**

**M.J. “Mike” Foster, Jr.  
Governor**

**David W. Hood  
Secretary, Department of Health and Hospitals**

**Submitted to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature  
March 26, 2001**

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## **2001 Louisiana Health Report Card**

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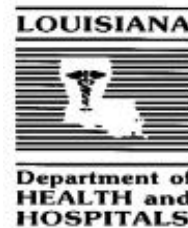
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M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.  
GOVERNOR



David W. Hood  
SECRETARY

March 2001

Dear Governor Foster and Members of the Louisiana Legislature:

On behalf of the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), I am pleased to present the sixth annual Louisiana Health Report Card in accordance with R.S. 40:1300.71. This legislation, as mandated in the 1995 Regular Legislative Session, has permitted DHH the opportunity to compile information on the health status of Louisiana. The Report Card provides morbidity- and mortality-related statistics, information on current assessment and prevention initiatives, and recommendations to improve the health status of the state's citizens through enhanced programming and increased access to care.

The DHH mission is to protect and promote health and to ensure access to treatment, preventive, and rehabilitative services for all citizens of the State of Louisiana. DHH is dedicated to fulfilling its mission by providing quality services in the most efficient manner possible, assisting in the development and delivery of those services by qualified providers, both public and private, and looking ahead to constantly raise our standards. The information contained in this report reinforces the importance of the DHH mission and reaffirms the Department's commitment to target resources and manpower in those areas where they are most needed.

We submit this report to you and gladly welcome feedback, in our ongoing effort to improve its usefulness. We also welcome discussion on ways in which we can work together to improve the health status of Louisiana.

Sincerely,

David W. Hood  
Secretary

